



Australian Capital Territory

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made under the

Motor Traffic Act 1936

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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MOTOR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

Incorporating all amendments by legislation made to 30 September 1980

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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MOTOR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

PART I—PRELIMINARY

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Traffic Regulations.¹ Citation
2. These Regulations shall come into operation on the third day of April, 1934. Commencement
3. These Regulations shall apply in relation to all motor vehicles. Application of Regulations

* * * * * Regulation 4 repealed by 1975 No. 18 r. 1
5. In these Regulations—
“caravan” means a covered trailer designed to provide living accommodation; Interpretation
“special purpose trailer” means a trailer of a kind referred to in paragraph (b) of the definition of “trailer” in the Ordinance; Substituted by 1961 No. 1 r. 2; amended by 1963 No. 8 r. 2; 1977 No. 18 r. 1
“the Ordinance” means the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1936*;
“wind-screen” means the main front wind-screen, but does not include a wind deflector or other subsidiary wind-screen.

PART II—TRAILERS

- * * * * * Regulations 6-10 repealed by 1965 No. 5
11. (1) The fee for the registration, or the renewal of the registration, of a trailer that is a caravan or a special purpose trailer is— Registration fees for trailers
 - (a) where the mass of the trailer does not exceed 400 kilograms—\$10; Substituted by 1977 No. 18 r. 2
 - (b) where the mass of the trailer exceeds 400 kilograms but does not exceed 1 tonne—\$25; and
 - (c) where the mass of the trailer exceeds 1 tonne—\$25, together with \$10 for each 250 kilograms, or part of 250 kilograms, by which the mass of the trailer exceeds 1 tonne.

(2) The fee for the registration, or the renewal of the registration, of a trailer, other than a caravan or a special purpose trailer, is—

- (a) where the mass of the trailer does not exceed 250 kilograms—\$10;
- (b) where the mass of the trailer exceeds 250 kilograms but does not exceed 1 tonne—\$25; and
- (c) where the mass of the trailer exceeds 1 tonne—\$25, together with \$10 for each 250 kilograms, or part of 250 kilograms, by which the mass of the trailer exceeds 1 tonne.

(3) In addition to the amount payable by virtue of sub-regulation (1) or (2), a fee of \$15 is payable for the registration of a trailer referred to in those sub-regulations.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation, the mass of the trailer means the gross weight of the trailer unladen.

Regulation 11A
repealed by 1977
No. 18 r. 3;
regulation 11A
repealed by 1965
No. 5

* * * * *

Brakes on
trailers
Inserted by 1942
No. 12 r. 3
Sub-reg. (1)
amended by
1974 No. 17

11B. (1) Every trailer whose weight (inclusive of the load it is carrying) exceeds 2 tonnes, shall be equipped with at least one brake or combination of brakes of reasonable efficiency, having regard to the size of the trailer and load carried, and capable of being readily applied and retained either by the driver of the towing vehicle or by some person who is carried on or walking alongside the trailer within reach of the brake lever.

Amended by
1974 No. 17

(2) Every trailer whose weight (inclusive of the load it is carrying) is less than 2 tonnes but exceeds 254 kilograms shall be equipped with at least one brake capable of being readily applied either by the driver of the towing vehicle or automatically by the over-run of the trailer.

Amended by
1974 No. 17

(3) It shall not be necessary for a trailer whose weight (inclusive of the load it is carrying) is less than 254 kilograms to be equipped with brakes when coupled to a motor vehicle which, if retarded by its foot-brake, can be brought to a rest from a speed of 50 kilometres per hour in less than 15 metres.

Safety chains
on trailers
Inserted by 1947
No. 5; repealed
by 1965 No. 5;
inserted by 1974
No. 3
Sub-reg. (1)
amended by
1974 No. 17

11C.² (1) A trailer the gross weight of which does not exceed 2.30 tonnes shall be equipped with a safety chain that complies with the requirements of the standard known as "Australian Standard D25-1972—Safety Chains for Trailers".

(2) In this regulation, "gross weight", in relation to a trailer, means the unladen weight of the vehicle together with the weight of the load being carried on the vehicle.

* * * * *

Regulations 11B-11F repealed by 1965 No. 5

* * * * *

Part III (regulations 12-16) repealed by 1961 No. 1 r. 5

PART IV—REGISTRATION LABELS

17. (1) Upon the registration or renewal of registration of any motor vehicle or trailer, the Registrar shall issue to the person in whose name the vehicle is registered a registration label in an approved form.

Issue and form of labels

Sub-reg. (1) amended by 1975 No. 18 r. 2

* * * * *

Sub-reg. (2) omitted by 1953 No. 6 r. 7

18. (1) A registration label shall, during the currency of the registration, be firmly affixed to or attached on the motor vehicle or trailer in respect of which the label is issued, in the position and in the manner hereinafter prescribed in respect of such vehicle (unless otherwise approved by the Registrar) and so as to be clearly visible to a person facing the label at a distance of 6 metres therefrom.

Affixing of registration labels

Sub-reg. (1) amended by 1974 No. 17

(2) The position of and manner in which registration labels are to be affixed or attached shall be as follows:

Amended by 1968 No. 2 r. 1

(a) In the case of a motor vehicle (other than a motor cycle) having a windscreen—

(i) if the motor vehicle has a pivoted, hinged or horizontally sliding ventilation window on the front left-hand or near-side of the motor vehicle—the label shall be affixed either on the inside of the windscreen at the bottom and as near as practicable to the left-hand side of the windscreen or on the inside and at the bottom of that ventilation window; or

(ii) in any other case—the label shall be affixed on the windscreen as provided by the last preceding sub-paragraph,

so that the front of the label faces outwards from the motor vehicle;

(b) In the case of a motor vehicle (other than a motor cycle) not having a windscreen—the label shall be displayed in a holder which shall be affixed to the left-hand or near-side of the motor vehicle, as nearly as practicable to the position in which the label

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would have been displayed in accordance with paragraph (a) of this sub-regulation if the vehicle had been fitted with a windscreen, and so that the front of the label faces towards the front of the motor vehicle;

- (c) In the case of a motor cycle—the label shall be displayed in a holder affixed to the handle-bar or front fork in the centre or on the left-hand or near-side of the motor cycle and the front of the label shall face towards the front or the left-hand side of the motor cycle; and
- (d) In the case of a trailer—the label shall be displayed in a holder affixed to the left-hand or near-side of the trailer in such manner that the front of the label faces outwards from the trailer.

Regulation 19
repealed by 1963
No. 8 r. 3

* * * * *

Provision
and type of
holder, &c.
Sub-reg. (1)
amended by
1963 No. 8 r. 4

20. (1) Any holder mentioned in these Regulations shall be provided by the owner of the vehicle and shall be of a type approved by the Registrar.

(2) Every label which is required to be displayed in a holder shall be affixed to clear glass in the holder in such manner that all the particulars on the label are clearly visible through the glass.

Alterations
affecting
particulars
on labels
Sub-reg. (1)
amended by
1963 No. 8 r. 5

21. (1) Where a new number-plate is issued by the Registrar to any person in lieu of a lost or damaged plate and the new plate bears a number different from that shown on the current registration label, the person in whose name the vehicle is registered shall produce the vehicle or the holder displaying the label and the Registrar shall, upon the destruction of the label, issue a new label to that person.

(2) Where any alteration is made in the construction, equipment, use or ownership of a motor vehicle or trailer of such a nature as to affect the accuracy of any of the particulars appearing on the current registration label, the person in whose name the vehicle is registered shall forthwith notify the Registrar and shall, if so required by the Registrar, produce the vehicle for inspection.

(3) The Registrar shall, upon being satisfied after such inspection that any of the particulars in the current registration label are incorrect, cause the label to be destroyed and, subject to compliance with any other requirement of the Ordinance or these Regulations, issue a new label in place of the label so destroyed.

Label
destroyed,
damaged,
&c.
Amended by
1963 No. 8 r. 6;
1968 No. 2 r. 2;
1976 No. 3 r. 2;
1977 No. 18 r. 4

22. Where a registration label is lost, destroyed, damaged or in any way defaced before the expiry of the registration, the Registrar may, upon application and payment of a fee of \$2, and upon being satisfied that the label has been lost or destroyed, issue a duplicate of the label, and the duplicate shall thereupon be deemed to be the registration label for the purposes of these Regulations.

23. Within 3 days after the date of expiry of the registration of a motor vehicle or trailer, the person in whose name the vehicle was registered shall cause the registration label to be destroyed.

Destruction of label on expiry of registration
Substituted by 1963 No. 8 r. 7; amended by 1979 No. 26

24. (1) Where the registration of a motor vehicle or trailer is cancelled during the currency of the certificate of registration, the person in whose name the vehicle was registered shall forthwith forward to the Registrar for destruction the registration label issued in respect of such vehicle or produce to the Registrar the vehicle or the holder displaying the label to enable the label to be destroyed.

Destruction of label when registration cancelled, &c.

* * * * *

Sub-reg. (2) omitted by 1963 No. 8 r. 8

25. (1) Any person who, upon any public street—

Offences in relation to registration labels

(a) drives, or allows to be driven, or is in charge of, any motor vehicle or trailer which is required to be registered and which does not carry a registration label as required by these Regulations or which carries such label otherwise than in conformity with the requirements of these Regulations;

Sub-reg. (1) amended by 1963 No. 8 r. 9

(b) without lawful authority or excuse, drives or allows to be driven, or is in charge of, any motor vehicle or trailer—

(i) upon which is displayed any registration label which (except as provided in these Regulations or as directed by the Registrar) has been altered, mutilated or defaced in any manner whatsoever or upon which any writing, mark or colour is not clearly legible or visible;

(ii) having affixed thereto or displayed thereon a registration label which was issued in respect of any other motor vehicle or trailer or in respect of a registration which has expired; or

(iii) to which is affixed or on which is displayed a registration label containing any incorrect particulars,

shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) Any person who—

(a) without lawful authority or excuse, prints or manufactures or has in his possession a label which resembles a registration label and which is calculated or likely to deceive;

(b) except as provided in these Regulations or as directed by the Registrar, alters or defaces any registration label;

- (c) buys or sells any label which resembles a registration label and is calculated to deceive; or
 - (d) contravenes any provision of this Part,
- shall be guilty of an offence.

Production of vehicles
Amended by
1963 No. 8 r. 10

26. A notice by the Registrar to produce any vehicle shall be in writing and shall state the time within and the place at which the vehicle shall be produced.

PART V—MISCELLANEOUS

Advertisements

27. No person shall advertise or publish or cause to be advertised or published in any newspaper or otherwise cause to be exhibited or exhibit any advertisement or notice directly or indirectly—

- (a) inviting persons to become passengers;
- (b) intimating that any persons will be carried;
- (c) soliciting the carriage of any goods; or
- (d) intimating that any goods will be carried;

unless the person requesting or requiring the advertisement or notice is the holder of a licence to ply for hire in respect of a public or other motor vehicle in which the passengers or goods are to be carried or is the holder of a private hire car licence and the advertisement or notice contains the name of such holder.

Unlicensed person acting as driver to be subject to Regulations

28. Any unlicensed person acting as the driver of a motor vehicle shall be subject to these Regulations and liable for any breach thereof in like manner as if he were a licensed driver.

* * * * *

Regulation 29 repealed by 1977 No. 27

Offences
Amended by
1960 No. 2 r. 4;
1968 No. 2 r. 3;
1979 No. 26

30. Any person who commits, or knowingly aids, abets, counsels, procures or assists any person to commit, a breach of any of these Regulations for which no other penalty is expressly provided shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: \$20.

Offences resulting from accident or other unavoidable causes

31. No person shall be deemed to be guilty of a breach of any of these Regulations if he proves to the satisfaction of the Court hearing the case that the occurrence which is the subject of the case was the result of accident, or could not have been avoided by any reasonable efforts on his part.

* * * * *

Regulation 32 repealed by 1965 No. 5 r. 2

33. A person may, upon payment of the fee set out in the second column of the Table hereunder opposite an item in the first column of that Table, be furnished with the information or particulars specified in that item in relation to registrations and licences.

Fees in respect of inspection of record of registrations and licences
 Added by 1942 No. 12 r. 9; amended by 1968 No. 2 r. 4; 1976 No. 3 r. 3

Table

Item	Fee
1. Typewritten sheet of 38 or less registrations	0.20
2. Searching the records and supplying information from the records	2.00
3. Certified copy of an extract from the records or a certificate of the Registrar	3.00
* * * * *	Regulation 34 repealed by 1959 No. 8; regulation 35 repealed by 1953 No. 6 r. 8
* * * * *	First Schedule repealed by 1956 No. 1 r. 6; Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules repealed by 1961 No. 1 r. 6

NOTES

1. By sub-section 2 (4) of the *Motor Traffic Ordinance* 1936, the Motor Traffic Regulations made under the *Motor Traffic Ordinance* 1932-1933 on 19 March 1934 are, except so far as they are inconsistent with the *Motor Traffic Ordinance* 1936, deemed to have been made or published under the *Motor Traffic Ordinance* 1936. The Motor Traffic Regulations (in force under the *Motor Traffic Ordinance* 1936) as shown in this reprint comprise Regulations made on 19 March 1934 as amended by the other Regulations specified in the following table:

Year and number	Date of making	Date of notification in Gazette	Date of commencement
—	19 Mar 1934	22 Mar 1934	3 Apr 1934
1941 No. 9	24 Nov 1941	27 Nov 1941	27 Nov 1941
1942 No. 12	3 Nov 1942	5 Nov 1942	5 Nov 1942
1943 No. 8	23 Nov 1943	30 Dec 1943	30 Dec 1943
1947 No. 5	13 Nov 1947	27 Nov 1947	27 Nov 1947
1953 No. 6	12 May 1953	21 May 1953	21 May 1953
1953 No. 14	2 Nov 1953	12 Nov 1953	12 Nov 1953
1955 No. 3	24 Mar 1955	31 Mar 1955	31 Mar 1955
1956 No. 1	19 Apr 1956	3 May 1956	Rr.2 and 5: 21 May 1956 (a) Remainder: 3 May 1956
1959 No. 8	3 July 1959	9 July 1959	9 July 1959

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NOTES—continued

Year and number	Date of making	Date of notification in <i>Gazette</i>	Date of commencement
1960 No. 2	23 Mar 1960	31 Mar 1960	31 Mar 1960
1961 No. 1	19 Dec 1960	12 Jan 1961	12 Jan 1961
1963 No. 8	20 Dec 1963	24 Dec 1963	1 Jan 1964
1965 No. 5	25 Aug 1965	9 Sept 1965	9 Sept 1965
1968 No. 2	14 Feb 1968	22 Feb 1968	22 Feb 1968
1974 No. 3	15 Mar 1974	15 Mar 1974	15 Mar 1974
1974 No. 17	9 Sept 1974	17 Sept 1974	17 Sept 1974
1975 No. 18	12 Sept 1975	16 Sept 1975	16 Sept 1975
1976 No. 3	6 Feb 1976	6 Feb 1976	6 Feb 1976
1977 No. 18	11 Aug 1977	17 Aug 1977	17 Aug 1977
1977 No. 27	27 Oct 1977	3 Nov 1977	3 Nov 1977
1979 No. 26	26 Nov 1979	29 Nov 1979	29 Nov 1979

(a) Regulation 1 of Regulations 1956 No. 1 provides as follows:

“1. (1) Subject to this regulation, these Regulations shall come into operation on the date on which they are notified in the *Gazette*.

“(2) Regulations 2 and 5 of these Regulations shall come into operation on the date fixed by the Minister for the purposes of sub-section (3) of section 2 of the *Motor Traffic Ordinance 1956*.”

The date fixed was 21 May 1956 (*see Gazette 1956*, p. 1213).

The Motor Traffic Regulations were also amended by the *Seat of Government (Designation) Ordinance 1938* (No. 25, 1938 as amended by No. 35, 1938).

2. Regulation 11C was inserted by Regulations 1974 No. 3. Regulation 2 of those Regulations provides as follows:

“2. (1) The Motor Traffic Regulations as amended by Regulation 1 apply to and in relation to the registration, of a trailer on or after 1 July 1974.

“(2) The Motor Traffic Regulations as in force immediately before the date of commencement of these Regulations continue to apply to and in relation to the registration, or renewal of registration, of a trailer before 1 July 1974.”

